(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether such studies are proposed to be conducted in other areas of Rajasthan also;

(c) what are the main causes for the ground water getting polluted in these villages; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by the Central Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c). The study has indicated that as a result of release of untreated effluents by some industries located in Bichhri, the ground water in the region has become contaminated and unfit for drinking and irrigation purposes. It may take several years for restoration of the quality of the groundwater. Similar studies on effects of industrial effluents on groundwater quality of Pali, Balotra and Jodhpur have been carried out.

(d) The steps taken include the following :

(i) The industries identified as causing the pollution have been closed down.

(ii) The Central Government has directed the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board to take effective measures for the safe removal and disposal of sludge from the premises of the factories.

(iii) The industries concerned have been directed by the Supreme Court to bear the expenditure incurred for removal of sludge.

(iv) The Rajasthan State Government is taking steps for supply of drinking water to the affected area.

Kaiga Power Plant

@1669. SHRI H. MANUMANTHAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present stage of Kaiga Power Plant; and

(b) by when this plant is likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON) : (a) Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant consisting of 2 units each of 235 MWe capacity is presently under construction.

(b) The present target schedules for achieving criticality are June 1995 and December 1995 for Unit-I and Unit-2 respectively.

Remote sensing application centre in Orissa

1670. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) since when the Remote Sensing Application Centre has been functioning in Orissa;

(b) the machinery and equipment purchased for the Remote Sensing Application Centre so far;

(c) the cost of these equipments,

(d) the amount borne by the Central Government for buying those equipment; and

(e) the various works undertaken by the Remote Sensing Application Centre so

@ Previously Unstarred Question 761 transferred from the 19th March, 1990.